

It is with horror that I learn that the FCC is distorting the ideals of America's great culture to claim that deregulation in the media is good for society. My parents, both journalists who have worked in the United States and in Europe can testify to the fact that American media outlets, in particular newspapers, are so much superior in quality to European ones exactly because in the US it is illegal for companies to control too many media outlets in the same geographic area and therefore there is competition and no possibility of a monopoly. I cannot believe that the United States wants to clear the way for such pathetic situations as the one in Italy where the Prime Minister (Silvio Berlusconi) simultaneously controls ALL six national television channels! I understand the US is not at that point yet but it is slowly but surely getting there!

Already the main television channels are owned by big companies (like General Electric and Microsoft) which have a specific interest in politics etc. How the FCC can allow the dire situation to get any worse, I simply cannot comprehend. It is my sincere hope that the United States should be a good example to the rest of the world by maintaining and encouraging diversity in media coverage and by showing that you do not have to be rich and powerful to enjoy the unalienable right of freedom of the press.